

## Navy News asks: *What is your favorite ‘war’ movie?*



**MMC (SW) Tony Baird**  
*Navy Medical Clinic  
Pearl Harbor*  
Patton.  
I like the old war movies bet-  
ter than the new ones. There  
is a lot more action and they  
seem more realistic.



**FC2 Kurt Powell**  
*USS Chosin (CG 65)*  
The Fighting Leathernecks.  
Because John Wayne was  
‘the man’.



**Scott Hurst**  
*Contractor*  
Midway.  
I like sea battles and John  
Wayne.



**Builder Constructionman  
Jimal Stokes**  
*NSGA Kunia self-help seabees*  
When We Were Soldiers.  
Because it showed true lead-  
ership and really inspired  
me.



**EN2 (SW) Matt McComas**  
*USS Salvor (ARS 52)*  
Saving Private Ryan.  
It seemed to be very factual  
and was just an all around  
good movie.

## NTMPS: Data source for variety of organizations

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continued.

Two other systems which use the NTMPS data warehouse are the Fleet Training Management and Planning System (FLTMPS) and the electronic training jacket (ETJ). According to James F. Kasler, NTMPS senior technical representative with Computer Sciences Corporation, they are tailored more toward the fleet and individual Sailor's requirements. "FLTMPS is a Web-enabled system that has no special requirements other than a computer with Internet access and a Web browser," said Kasler.

"FLTMPS is a flexible tool with push-button report generation that includes information such as: up-to-date status of manpower and training readiness, activity training requirements and deficiencies, modules to locate personnel with certain skill sets, class convening dates, available quotas, and projected gains and losses - to name a few. The gener-

ated reports are displayed on the screen, printed or saved as MS Word or Excel documents," Kasler said.

Navy leaders hope to use FLTMPS to support surface ships in tracking their training requirements during the basic phase of the inter-deployment training cycle. FLTMPS is currently being tested by the fleet and will be available fleet-wide in April 2003.

The individual Sailors' access into the data warehouse is through the Navy's official electronic training jacket (ETJ). The NTMPS ETJ provides the Sailor with a complete and comprehensive read and print only look at their personnel information. Information in the jacket includes ASVAB scores, formal training and education accomplishments including off-duty education and ACE recommended Navy schools, advancement status, language skills, AQDs, subspecialty codes, qualifications, certifications, awards and more.

ETJ information is available 24/7 through any computer with Internet access. Individuals access a simple registration process at <http://www.ntmps.navy.mil/Info/ETJWEB/index.htm>. All active duty and reserve personnel, officers and enlisted, can sign in to see their own ETJ within a matter of minutes.

NTMPS and FLTMPS both require users to submit applications which demonstrate their need to access NTMPS before access will be granted. Applications are available on line at <http://www.ntmps.navy.mil>.

Martha Maddux, NETC's NTMPS program manager, encouraged Sailors to give NTMPS a try and not be intimidated by the technical nature of the program. "Users of NTMPS, FLTMPS and ETJ are assisted by an award-winning, full service operational support desk available to answer questions, help create reports, assist with system problems and keep your data quests produc-

tive," said Maddux.

According to Maddux, it is also important that the users of the data system maintain the integrity of the system. "Everyone using the system has a vested interest in keeping the information up-to-date and correct," explained Maddux. "The system is only as valuable as the data it contains and every command using the system should work to insure their portion is complete."

The NTMPS team is currently developing a system that will allow afloat units to continue to derive benefits from the system even when they do not have off ship connectivity. The system can be refreshed whenever connectivity is re-established. It will be available to all units by July 2003.

Live help at the support desk can be reached toll free at (866) 438-2898 from 6:30 a.m.-5 p.m. (CDT), Monday through Friday. The support staff will respond to voice mail requests left outside normal office hours.

## Story telling videotapes bring families together

**Lt. j.g. Andrea H. Oac and  
Lt. j.g. Patrick Sullivan**

*USS O'Kane Public Affairs*

During the midwatch on the bridge recently, the topic of conversation was mail. The conning officer, Signalman 1st Class Dray and the officer of the deck, Lt. j.g. Patrick Sullivan, were both concerned with the close out time for outgoing mail. What could possibly be so urgent as to warrant a conversation about post office hours? It turned out that both were parents who participate in the United Through Reading program.

Since O'Kane's maiden deployment last year, her crew has participated in the United Through Reading program. This program is supported by the Family Literacy Foundation to deployed military personnel to communicate with their children back home by reading a story aloud on videotape. Taping sessions are held every other week and are private. An added benefit to the program is that video tapes, when shipped alone, require no postage or shipping.

Uniting Through Reading is bringing deployed parents directly into their living rooms and keeping that special relationship alive even from thousands of miles away.

During the last deployment, over 80 recordings were made and sent home to families and loved ones. Since Jan. 17, 40 recordings have been made and crew participation continues to grow. Many crew members use this medium to send recorded messages to their children, boyfriends or girlfriends, nieces, nephews and spouses.

Gas Turbine Systems Mechanic 2nd Class Narvie Maye Jones, for example, is taking advantage of United Through Reading to tape herself reading "Little Chickens" to her 18-month-old daughter, Nyaira, back home in Hawaii. This is her first year with the United Through Reading program and she has heard many positive comments from friends back home. "The first time Nyaira saw the tape, she started crawling to the TV and said, 'Mommy on TV!' She watches it every night now," said Jones. The program is doubly effective when families send recordings back. "In my family, my wife records my daughter watching my video tapes. Watching my daughter respond to my questions and the happiness that she experiences from watching the tapes motivates me to keep sending tapes home," said Lt. j.g. Sullivan.

USS O'Kane has had great success with this program and feedback from Sailors and families alike has been very positive.